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# *Bethel Prayer Concerns*

*Sunday, January 2, 2022*

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Anneka Onk;  
Clay Landers.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the sunrise and the evening star,  
you have revealed to us your love in Jesus Christ:  
a love so long expected, yet so surprising in its unfolding.

Gather us from near and far.

Awaken us to your unexpected revelation,  
the justice of your slow-dawning kin-dom,  
the mystery of your boundless invitation.

Shine through us,  
that all people would be drawn to your light in us;  
through Jesus Christ, in whom we have access to you  
in boldness and confidence through faith to pray. Amen.

## **REFLECTIONS**

In Epiphany when the magi make their great journey to see the Christ Child, we see Jesus drawing all creation to the divine life revealed in him, and we see the realization of God's dream of reconciled creation. In our own way, we are each endowed by the Spirit with unique and precious gifts for sharing God's healing love in a good but often divided world. What spiritual practices do you engage in that allow you to stay peaceful, courteous, and develop a respectful regard for difference? How do you stay present and create openness for finding, revealing, and activating God's reconciling love in the world?

# Bethel Presbyterian Church Announcements

## **ORDINATION & INSTALLATION**

During the service, Amy Coen, Ken Dungan, Cyndi Fowler, and Celia Simon will be Installed for a 3 year term as elders on the Session. Kathy Banker will be Ordained and Installed for a 1 year term as an elder on the Session.

## **BABY JESUS GIFT COLLECTION**

Thank you to everyone who brought baby gifts during our Dec/Christmas Eve collection. With your generous support, the Hands of Mercy (HOME) food pantry will be able to assist families with babies in our community with much needed necessities. 36 pkgs of diapers, 14 pkgs of wipes, and 18 assorted baby items were donated.

## **HOME FOOD COLLECTION**

For the month of January our focus foods are **Canned Pasta (Spaghetti-O's, Chef Boyardee, etc.)**. These and other non-perishable food items can be brought in through-out the month and placed in the yellow collection boxes in the Gathering Area. Thank you for supporting our local food pantry efforts to help needy families in our community.

## **THESE DAYS**

**a daily devotional, for Jan. Feb. & March**

is available on the table in the Gathering Area. Be sure to pick one up today. *“To nurture the daily practice of prayer and the reading of Scripture, there is solid help in the pages of These Days. The devotions wrestle faithfully with the doubts, joys, and challenges of the Christian life.”*

